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Thursday: High: 41 F Low: 21 F

Transition
Former University of Florida
head coach Urban Meyer
moves north to Ohio State.

04

**Opinion face-off**News Editor Karen Ingram
and Darrington Clark square
off over religion and morals.

05

**City centered**Curious about what the city commission is up to? See the brief on page 5.

# Muslim women share facts, dispel misconceptions about faith

Brittany Stevens

A Muslim woman dressed in a hijab, or headscarf, might receive stares, which she responds to with a smile. She might receive curious questions, which she answers. She might even be called names, or asked if she needs help escaping a suppressive faith, which she dismisses as ignorance about Muslim women.

"Women are pretty liberated within the Manhattan community," said Marie Trussel\*, a K-State student thinking about converting from Christianity to Islam. "Most of all they get questions, which all of them that I've met are more than happy to answer. They don't want to have negative stereotypes."

The Islamic Center of Manhattan, the local mosque, has a sisterhood group for the women to connect to and

support one another.

Women are not required to go to mosque, but are allowed to attend. Many times women are the caretakers of the children, which can make attending prayer difficult.

"Most women have children who are crying in the mosque and they bother other people," said Atia Ataie, a Muslim woman from Afghanistan who has lived in Manhattan for three years. "Because of my son, I do not go to the Friday prayer because several times I went, he

started crying, shouting."

Men and women enter the center from separate doors. Men fill the front room and, divided by a two-way mirror, the women pray in a smaller room. The women can see the men, but the men cannot see them. According to Trussel, this is not because women are considered second-class citizens, but to keep everyone focused.

Men and women used to pray alongside one another, Trussel said, but in a religion where the two are not supposed to touch, praying shoulder-to-shoulder was a distraction. The women were moved to the front, but this also distracted the men. This is how she understands the present arrangement came to be.

A Muslim woman's place



Media portrays Muslim women as oppressed, yet the women say otherwise.

"Islam gives women much rights," Ataie said. "Men are responsible for all family, for wife, for kids. A woman does not have to go help and work. If she likes, she can. She is free, whatever she do."

Ataie chooses not to work. Her husband provides food, clothing and takes care of her

Missy Calvert | Collegian

**ABOVE**: Women bring their children to prayer services at the mosque as long as they are not an interruption. Women and children worship in a separate room than men to eliminate distrac-

RIGHT: Muslim women wearing traditional hijabs, or headscarves, participate in Friday prayer at the Islamic Center of Manhattan. Attending prayer is not required for women, but they are always welcome.

MUSLIM | pg. 5



# RSBB member enjoys more than academics

Sandi Lam staff writer

Stephen Dyer may be known as a professor on campus, but a simple conversation with Dyer shows that his expertise goes far beyond engineering.

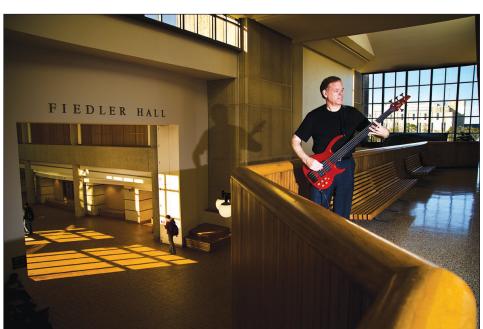
Dyer, professor in electrical and computer engineering, was introduced to the Red State Blues Band three years ago at the recommendation of a student. Before long, Dyer became the keyboardist for the group.

While it is a unique experience for Dyer to perform with a band comprised of professors and faculty, it is certainly not the first experience he has had sharing his musical talent in a performance group.

Since he was young, Dyer has been practicing and dabbling in a variety of musical instruments — some of which include the pipe organ, bass guitar, saxophone, drums and piano.

"I enjoy about every genre of music," Dyer said. "I used to listen to music about 20 hours a day but I'm not quite so needy anymore. I do like to have music playing in the background."

Dyer's two sons, Chris and Justin, were introduced to music at early ages. While Dyer



Tommy Theis | Collegian

**Stephen Dyer** goes over a few songs in Rathbone Hall in between classes. Dyer is a professor who has taught a variety of different classes while still being able to make time to play the keyboard, the guitar and perform with the Red State Blues Band.

fosters deep bonds with both sons, his passion for music is shared with Chris.

"Music has been a huge part of my life since I have been 5 or 6 years old. I started playing drums at 6 years old and I loved playing from the beginning," Chris said. "I played in church bands with him and in big bands where everyone was over 60 and I was about 10 years old — that was an interesting deal."

Chris said that while he was growing up, people would come over to his house every so often and they would play music together. Chris has even

DYER | pg. 6

# Mayor's parade to light up Manhattan for holiday season

Karen Ingram

The annual Mayor's Spirit of the Holidays Lighted Parade will take place this Friday, Dec. 2 at 6 p.m. The parade will begin downtown at the Manhattan Town Center and end at Triangle Park in Aggieville with a tree lighting ceremony.

Gina Scroggs, director of Downtown Manhattan, Inc. said the parade is a key event for the city and for members of Downtown Manhattan, Inc. and the Aggieville Business Association.

"It's a pretty coordinated effort," Scroggs said. "We have a lot of people involved in this."

Scroggs said the Riley County Police Department will need to provide additional traffic support for the event because of the new opening of Third Street, but otherwise the parade will have the same format as recent years, as it has worked well for so long.

"It's a pretty well-oiled ma-

chine," Scroggs said. Santa Claus will bring up the rear of the parade in a horse-drawn carriage and will participate in the tree lighting ceremony in Aggieville, Scroggs said. In addition, members of the Little Apple Football Association will be in the parade with shopping carts to collect canned goods from bystanders for the Flint Hills Breadbasket. Scroggs said donations of food or cash can also be brought to Triangle Park where Santa will be after the parade, or to the Breadbasket for people unable to attend the event. Scroggs said the donations for the Breadbasket have done very well in past parades.

"It's a huge drive for them," Scroggs said. "It's basically a season-long drive, but we highlight that fact during the parade."

The event is free and open to the public. Questions may be directed to *linda@downtownmanhattanks.com* 

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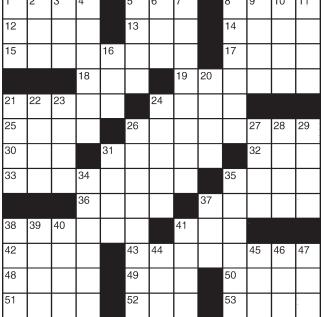
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11-29 **CRYPTOQUIP** 

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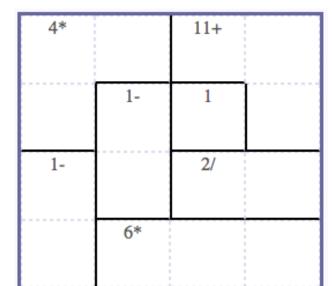
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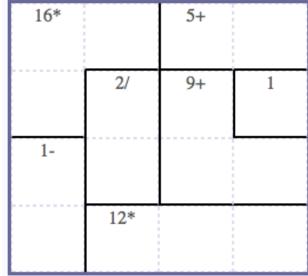


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# KenKen | Medium

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# Snyder eligible for coaching award, recognized for season



Tommy Theis | Collegian

Bill Snyder walks onto the field when a Texas Longhorn player was injured during the game against the University of Texas Nov. 19.



The honors keep piling up for K-State head football coach Bill Snyder and his team after their thrilling road victory over the Texas Longhorns putting the team at 9-2 on the year, well above their preseason expectations. Due to the team's success, Snyder is up for the Liberty Mutual Coach of the Year Award.

The award is voted on by fans at CoachOfTheYear.com and the winner's school receives \$70,000. Of that amount, \$50,000 is given to a charity of the coach's choice in his or her name. The remaining \$20,000 is given to the school's alumni association for scholarships. Fans can vote once per day on the website for the coach of their choice.

Snyder is currently atop the leaderboard for Division I FBS coaches. Oklahoma State coach Mike Gundy is following closely in second place. In third place is Dabo Swinney of Clemson, followed by Mark Hudspeth of Louisiana-Lafayette and Les Miles of LSU. Voting for the award ends on Dec. 3.

Across Manhattan, people have been urging others to go on the Liberty Mutual website and vote for

One student, Kelsey Johnston, sophomore in pre-nursing, posted on her Twitter account on Nov. 14,

"I voted for Bill Snyder for the 2011 Liberty Mutual #CoachoftheYear. You should too. Vote Now!"

Snyder has garnered hype for the award due to the unforeseen success of the Wildcats this year on the football field. Despite being predicted to finish in eighth place out of 10 teams in the Big 12 Conference in the preseason polls, the Wildcats have rattled off nine wins this season, including upset wins over Miami, then No. 15 Baylor, Missouri, Texas Tech, Texas A&M and then No. 23 Texas. Seven of the team's wins have been by a single-digit margin, indicating that Snyder's coaching schemes have played a big role in the team's fortune

this year. This is the greatest underdog team of all time for Snyder," said Powercat Illustrated writer David Scott Fritchen.

"Coach Snyder instilled in us from day one that we have to do that," said starting quarterback Collin Klein about his team having to stay tough throughout the year. "We've really carried that out.

Coaching awards are second nature for Snyder. In 1998, he won the Paul "Bear" Bryant Award and Walter Camp Coach of the Year Award, as well as the Big 12 Coach of the Year. He has also been named Big 12/Big 8 Coach of the Year in 1990, 1991, 1993 and 2002.

This year, if the Wild remaining two games (versus Iowa State, then their bowl game), it will by the seventh time Snyder has led K-State to 11 wins in a season, and the first time he has done so in his second tenure at K-State.

"Snyder is a great coach," said center B.J. Finney. "He is a great

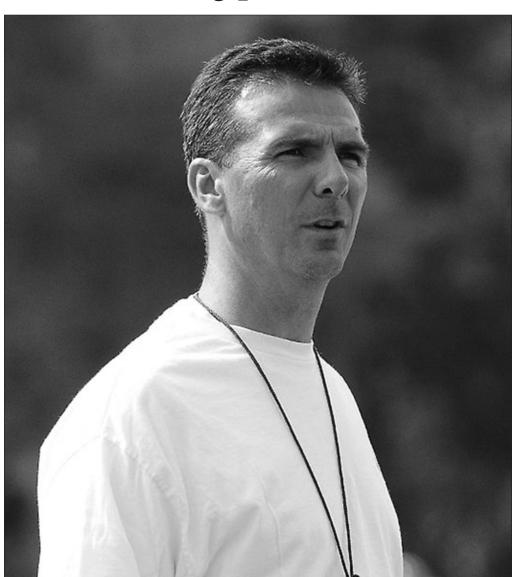
leader and keeps us focused." In addition to Snyder having an opportunity to be recognized for this season's achievements on the field, the award is also part of an ongoing partnership between Liberty Mutual

Insurance and the NCAA. According a press release from Liberty Mutual on Sep. 1, "Since its inaugural season in 2006, the Liberty Mutual Coach of the Year Award has donated more than \$1.2 million to over 80 charities and colleges."

After voting for the award ends Dec. 3, finalists for the award will be announced on Dec. 6. Then the winner will be announced prior to the BCS National Championship on Jan. 9, 2012 in New Orleans.

Sean Frye is a sophomore in journalism and mass communications. Please send all comments to sports@spub.ksu.edu.

# Urban Meyer ends time as ESPN analyst, accepts head coaching position with Ohio State Buckeyes



Urban Meyer looks on at the first spring practice at Florida in 2008. Meyer is back in the coaching business as he took the job at Ohio State on Monday.

Mark Kern

After a tough season for the Ohio State Buckeyes that saw numerous players suspended for NCAA rules violations, and the end of their seven-game winning streak against Michigan, the Buckeyes knew it was time to send a message. Interim coach Luke Fickell helped the team deal with all of the offfield distractions and get them bowl eligible, but for Ohio State to get back to its title contending days, they had to hire a coach that could help get them get there. On Monday, Ohio State made just the announcement that the Buckeye nation was looking

The head coach for football at Ohio State is now Urban Meyer. Meyer, 47, is coming off a year stint with ESPN as an analyst, retiring from Florida after last year's 37-24 Outback Bowl victory over Penn State. During his tenure at Florida, Meyer went 65-15, winning two national titles. It is this success that enticed the Buckeyes to go out and get Meyer.

Before this year's disappointing 6-6 season, Ohio State had been of the most consistent programs in the country. They won at least 10 games per season since 2002, including three national championship berths and one national title. The one knock on Ohio State is that they have been unable to match the speed of the teams they face, mainly the teams from the Southeastern Conference.

Besides having Tim Tebow at Florida, Meyer's ability to recruit players with incredible speed is why the Gators were able to have such great teams. Players like Percy Harvin, Chris Rainey and Jeff Demps provided the team with those game-changing types of plays that could turn around the mo-

mentum at any given time. Meyer and the Buckeyes have the potential to be a match made in heaven, with a coach coming in that has been successful everywhere he coaches,

and a program that is accustomed to winning. The cupboard is not bare for Meyer as there is still some talent at Ohio State. At the end of the year, freshman quarterback Braxton Miller started to show why he was being compared to Terrelle Pryor. He is a player a team can build their offense around, and potentially their program as well.

With Meyer taking the helm at Ohio State, the Buckeyes should be able to return to their ways of contending in the Big Ten Conference in conference championships and beyond.

# Twominute drill

Kelly McHugh staff writer

# NCAA Basketball

Syracuse's assistant basketball coach, Bernie Fine, was fired on Sunday after being accused of child molestation occurring on numerous occasions dating back to 10 years ago. Fine was in his 36th season at Syracuse, and had coached for the most consecutive years at one school as an assistant coach in NCAA Division I basketball.

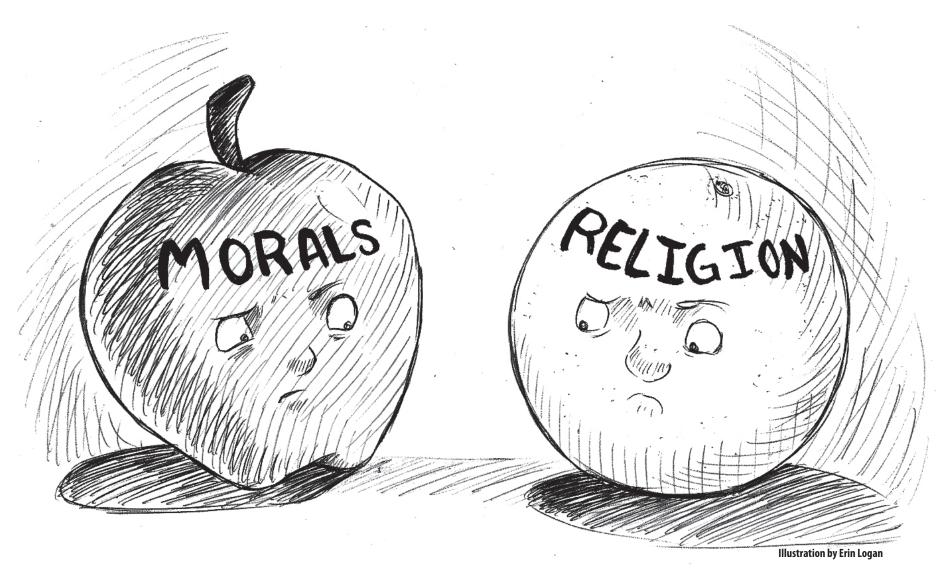
### NCAA Football

After a hard hit to the head during the game against Texas Tech, Robert Griffin III, quarterback for the Baylor Bears and currently third place Heisman trophy candidate, was forced to sit out the second half of the game. His loss of playing time during the last game and possible injury for the next one could hurt Griffin's chances at winning the Heisman Trophy. When asked though about whether or not the injury will force him to sit out Saturday's game with Texas, Griffin did not hesitate to answer, "There is no doubt. I was fine when I came out at halftime. It was the doctor's call, and sometimes you have to play on the safe side."

The score was 13-9 Sunday night, and the Kansas City Chiefs, now 7-4, suffered yet another loss this season while the Pittsburgh Steelers went home with a win. With one minute remaining on the clock and the Chiefs driving forward toward their goal line, quarterback Tyler Palko threw an interception and wide receiver Dwayne Bowe failed to go for the catch.

2011 Sprint Cup Champion, Tony Stewart, will have Steve Addington as his new crew chief for the 2012 racing season. Addington spent the past two seasons as crew chief for Kurt Busch and was Kyle Busch's crew chief from 2005-2009. Stewart stated he was very comfortable with Addington, and has high hopes of keeping the title of Sprint Cup Champion next year.

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# Moral decisions, actions not a product of religious teachings



Prejudice is a funny thing. There's always somebody out there who makes a convenient target for disliking and it's not always the most obvious one. According to a 2007 Gallup poll, Americans would be less willing to accept an atheist president than they would a Jew, a Mormon, a woman, someone who has been married three times or even a homosexual.

This last item in particuar shocked me. Homosexuals in this country are struggling just to gain the fundamental rights that straight people enjoy, but 55 percent of Americans would be willing to vote for a gay president, whereas only 45 percent would be willing to vote for an atheist. That's a huge difference.

Why so down on the godless? If I had to venture a guess, I'd say it's for the same outrageous claim I hear from some people when they find out I'm agnostic: People without religion lack morals.

I find this claim very offensive. My parents raised me agnostic and they raised me to know the difference between right and wrong. They taught me stories out of the Christian Bible, although the morals gleaned from those stories had no greater impact on me than those I learned from Aesop's Fables. I'd say the impact is the same for many devout Christians, as I have frequently observed their puzzling contradictory behavior: God preaches one thing, they do another. But no matter; a few Hail Marys makes it all better.

Oh, how dare you, Karen! Some people might be hypocrites, but you can't possibly say "many" Christians are. That's a gross generalization.

Au contraire, says I. If you don't want to take my word for it, there are numerous studies out there that support my personal observations. The Darley-Batson Good Samaritan Experiment of 1973 is a particularly interesting one.

A group of divinity students at Princeton were told they needed to give an impromptu speech to some freshmen undergrads as part of an experiment to see how they could think on their feet. Half were told they needed to give a talk on employment opportunities after graduation, while the other half were asked to give a speech on the parable of the Good Samaritan. Half of each group were told they were already late while the other half were told they had a little time to get to the next building for their speech.

On their way to the next building to deliver their speech, each subject encountered a person slumped on the ground, moaning and coughing. The real experiment was not the speech, but to see if these divinity students stopped to help the

person in need. Guess what? The topic of the speech had no effect on whether they stopped to help — time did. If they were running late, regardless of their speech topic, they were less likely to offer assistance. Some students preparing to talk about the Good Samaritan even stepped over the man on the sidewalk in their rush to get to the next building.

That, ladies and gentle-

men, is irony. I'm not saying useful information or morals can not be gleaned from religion. I'm simply saying that religion does not produce morality any more the absence of religion does. Generally, people can be counted on to do the right thing, regardless of their religious background, if it suits them. No amount

of preaching can teach you empathy or humbleness. You're better off learning these things by having a few hard knocks in life. If you have experienced pain or hardship, you can identify with others who are in need. That's empathy. This is why poor people tend to be more generous and willing to help than rich people, even if the money is fake.

An experiment by researchers Katherine Vohs, Nicole Mead and Miranda Goode had subjects play a game of Monopoly. After the game, subjects in the experiment were given either \$4,000 or \$200 in Monopoly money and told they would need it for another task later. People in the control group were given no money after the game. As they moved to another room in the building, they passed by someone in the hall who dropped a bunch of pencils. People with \$4,000 were less likely to stop and help than people with \$200 or no money. This was Monopoly money pretend money — but it still changed people's willingness to help someone in need.

Again, this is behavior I have observed in real life with real money. People with lots of money or material goods just don't help people in need as much as people with less do. It doesn't matter how religious you are or aren't.

As an agnostic, I humbly ask you to give me the benefit of the doubt when it comes to my morality. I might not have your God, but I have my empathy and it guides me well. My favorite passage from the Bible is Proverbs 15:33, "before honor is humility." I find much truth in that passage and it's not because of God, but because of the things I have experienced in life that make me wish to help people in need.

Karen Ingram is a junior in English. Please send all comments to opinion@spub.ksu.edu.

# Religion does not cause immoral actions, personal life choices do



Religion and violence. The issues raging about how organized religion has caused pain and suffering worldwide have fueled debates for hundreds, or thousands, of years. I think this is because members of any religion automatically get defensive when speaking about this topic. That is easy to do, but is often exactly what an opponent

Somebody who is upset, offended, angry or defensive, is almost certain to lose an argument, because they're so enraged and desperate to prove themselves right. I am a believer, and do not need to prove myself right. Therefore, this is not an argument. This is me, explaining a few points about religion that are important to this topic.

In 2002, author Salman Rushdie of The Guardian, wrote of his view of religion in his home country of India. Rushdie condemned religion, citing it as the cause for his land's violence and unrest, naming it the "poison in India's blood." What this man has seen in his home is terrible, and something that nobody should have to cope with. He has seen death, poverty and the worst of human nature come out of people. I cannot say that he is wrong. All I can do is submit my opinion on whether the broad term of "religion" is

really to blame. Have you ever witnessed a good situation turn extremely bad? For example, inviting friends to a birthday party, only to discover that two people that you've invited hate each other savagely. Or consider a group project in which one person doesn't contribute as much as the others, but gets the same grade. The idea of birthday parties or group projects is not the reason that those situations

went bad. It's people. People are the reason that good concepts turn corrupt. We, as humans, have the incredible ability to justify our actions with anything we choose. The situation in India can hardly be compared to a party, but the concept is the same: people, not the idea of religion, are the cause.

As far as I know, there is no widely-practiced religion that tells its followers to kill others. So, how can murders happen "in the name of God?" Somebody has simply found a personal justification tying religion to viciousness. That doesn't make any sense, but we are no strangers to the idea of arbitrary malice: where does prejudice come from, and who started it?

In "Romeo and Juliet," why do the Capulets hate the Montagues, and vice versa? There is no clear-cut reason, but those beliefs changed history. Some people simply decide to take hate to the highest level. So, why do we blame religion for why some people do it? People have blamed religion for turmoil for

several reasons. It would make sense to believe that religion set the standards for people to begin believing that God wants war and murder. If someone claims to be a Christian, and then starts a war, Christianity would be the first thing that would be to blame, wouldn't it? But, if that were true, every Christian would have to be starting a war. Since that isn't so, religion itself cannot be the blame for "religious violence."

The term "religious violence" is silly in itself, because the very definitions of those two words are so opposite. Religion is a mindset, a way of thinking and a method of following a belief that is greater than you. Violence is nothing but worldly. People themselves are not the only ones in question, however.

Éveryone knows about all the statistics of how many people God killed in the Old Testament or how he exhibited outrageous and contradictory qualities. In my own personal readings, because this very topic inspired me to research, I've found that God never up and killed anyone just because of the feeling he got in his fingers when he did it.

Usually, God always reasoned first, always gave his people at least some sort of chance to truly adhere to the religion that they said they would.

What people have to realize is that what God has done in the past has nothing to do with what Christians are supposed to be doing in the present. We, as Christians, have a mission that has nothing to do with violence or murder, and blaming religion on the actions of God is very similar to blaming a son for the actions of his mother.

The question I wish to pose is, what is the solution to the problem that you see? For people who are against religion because of the disaster that it can cause, what are we to do about it? Erase religion? I'm not arguing that doing that is impossible. I am saying that it

wouldn't solve the problem. Let's hypothetically assume that religion no longer existed, that it was banned or forgone. People will find a new reason to hate, kill and rile. These things were not born of religion, and so getting rid of religion will not help us solve them. There would still be disagreements and danger. That isn't a theory. Right now, even though religion exists, there are still wars, fights, debates, hatred and murder all taking place with nothing to do with God.

By getting rid of religion, what will we have truly done? We will have taken peoples' peace, happiness and hope. We will have sentenced people to eternal death within their own minds. Arguers so often ignore how much good comes out of religion when discussing the bad. If religion were to be erased, then the good of it would disappear, but what people call the "evil of religion" would still healthily remain. Because of that, I think religion has a place in this world that is vital and necessary. The violence that springs in the name of religion can always be found, instead, in the name of people.

Darrington Clark is a freshman in journalism and mass communications. Please send all comments to opinion@

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seems pretty

obvious. Laura Thacker, opinion editor



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# Commission to focus on city improvements

**Jakki Thompson** 

The City Commission will be holding a work session tonight to discuss different areas of improvement. They will be receiving a presentation discussing the improvements being made on Poyntz Avenue. The commission will be receiving an update from the improvements being made on the Bluemont Corridor, from North Manhattan Avenue to 11th Street. The city commissioners will be discussing the city of Manhattan's Legal Department budget. This discussion will be focused around whether a third attorney will be necessary for the city with the projects it has coming up. The City Commission work session will be held in the City Commission Room in the City

### THE BLOTTER

ARREST REPORTS

### **SUNDAY**

Nnaemeka Chidi Umeofia, of the 1200 block of Bertrand Street, was booked for driving with a canceled, suspended or revoked license. Bond was set

Rodney Okello Ojuka, of the 1200 block of Poyntz Avenue, was booked for probation violation. Bond was set at \$268.50.

Aimee Nichole Berges, of Ogden, was booked for three counts of failure to appear. Bond was set at \$1,000.

### **MONDAY**

Erin Kathleen Welsh, of

the 1200 block of Wyndham Heights Drive, was booked for unlawful possession of hallucinogens and use or possession of paraphernalia to introduce into the human body. Bond was set

Steven Jay Hineman, of Hays, Kan., was booked for driving with a canceled, suspended or revoked license. Bond was set at \$750.

Andrew Michael Jordan, of Louisville, Kan., was booked for driving with a canceled, suspended or revoked license. Bond was set at \$750.

Compiled by Sarah Rajewski.

# MUSLIM | Religous, social practices addressed

### Continued from page 1

and her children when they are

"It is very difficult for men in Islam to do all these things," she said.

Contrary to popular belief, Muslim women can go anywhere they like, except places that pose a potential danger, Ataie said.

### **Muslim dress**

The Quran instructs women to cover their heads and wear conservative clothing. How each woman interprets the verses varies based on culture and preference.

For Trussel, who has already started dressing more conservatively, finding clothing has been a challenge. Ataie said she also struggles to find permissible fashions.

The women must cover themselves in public, but Ataie said coverings are not required at home with family members unless company comes over.

Within the Manhattan com-

munity, the hijab is an identifier of a Muslim woman, Trussel "You kind of have this little air around you when you dress

conservatively and wear a hijab," Trussel said. "People stare but ultimately if you turn around and smile at them, they realize there is a human beneath that hijab."

Abdulrahman Kamal, president of the executive committee of the ICM, said both his wife and daughter don hijabs.

"My wife, for example, is wearing a scarf. She is studying at campus," Kamal said. "My daughter wears a scarf, but she does not cover her face ... but both of them are fine here."

### **Shedding light**

The media's portrayal of Muslims has a tendency to focus on extreme and sensationalistic practices that may or may not actually be a part of the Islamic faith, such as arranged marriages, honor killings and polygamy.

### Arranged marriage

Trussel said women have the final say whether they accept or reject an arranged marriage proposal. In fact, if either the man or woman rejects the match made, the marriage loses

When a young Muslim girl comes of age, her family and community scout potential suitors who meet their expectations, including a solid family background, employment and sufficient finances to support their daughter. This practice is important because of the extended family household way of life in many traditional, rural Muslim communities.

"When you marry, you're marrying that family," Trussel

### Honor killing

An honor killing is performed when members kill someone to redeem the disgrace done due to a rape, adultery or something else that decreases the prestige of their group.

Yet, in a religion that views killing another as killing humanity and sees it as a fundamental sin, Trussel said she disagrees that this is true Muslim

Trussel said honor killings are "something widespread Muslims don't approve of," comparing it to the act of Americans at Guantanamo Bay. A small portion of the population committed this act and, as a whole, the nation is not proud of it.

Gene type may indicate individual level of

In some traditional, rural areas of Islamic nations, men are permitted to have up to four partners. If a woman's husband dies, another man could take her as another wife to provide for her financially.

"It's kind of a security blanket for women," Trussel said.

However, the condition in Islam is that the man must be able to love each wife equally. As with arranged marriage, women have the choice to say

yes or no to this practice.

### Not as it seems

When Saddam Hussein was removed from power in Iraq, American television showed Muslim women shedding their hijabs in the streets. People thought the women were being freed from oppression. That was not the case. Trussel said a woman unwraps her hijab when she wants to call men to action.

"It was truly an act of OK, now, we need men to step up. We need men that are going to represent and honor us to come into filling his shoes," Trussel

As with all of the assumptions and stereotypes mentioned about the Muslim way of life, things are not as they seem.

"With horrific things a population is stereotyped for, for example, the Germans with the Holocaust, that was a national identity that was created for them; but when you expand it to a religious identity, that covers so much," Trussel said. "To stereotype a religion is even more ambiguous."

\*Marie Trussel is an alias. For privacy purposes the source asked to not be named.

# K-State Daily Briefs

Karen Ingram

The final doctoral dissertation of Wen-Chi Chen, "Shall We Dance? Finding the Balance of Influence and Intimacy Within Couples," will be held on December 1 at 10 a.m. in the K-State Student Union Stateroom

The final doctoral dissertation of German Andres Vargas Orozco, "Patterns of Reproductive Allocation in Aphidophagous Lady Beetles and their Response to Various Levels of Resource Availability," will be held on December 1 at 9:30 a.m. in Waters Hall 137.

Troy V. Huser, DUI and Criminal Defense Attorney, will be giving a presentation on the legal consequences associated with getting a DUI tonight at 7 p.m. in the K-State Student Union's Cottonwood Room.

The Women of K-State's Brown Bag Lunch series will be holding a presentation on Wednesday, Nov. 30 to discuss coping with stress and challenges around the holidays. The event will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the K-State Student Union's Flint Hills Room. The event is free and open to the public and participants are encouraged to bring a lunch.

### Mary Susman Minnestora Daily, U.

People may be able to judge if someone is trustworthy and empathetic within seconds of seeing them, according to a University of California at

Berkeley study published Nov. 14 in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences. The research, which shows a link between biology and empathetic behavior, reveals that people with the guanine-guanine genotypic configuration more often display behaviors that indicate empathy - such as head nodding, eye contact and an open body posture — allowing people to determine if they trust a stranger in a matter

"We know that you can't see a person's physiology — it has to manifest in some sort of behavior," said co-author Christopher Oveis, assistant professor of management at UC San Diego.

of seconds, according to the re-

"You can accurately tell something about a person from very little behavior.

For the study, the researchers video recorded Berkeley couples talking with each other about times of suffering, said Aleksandr Kogan, lead author of the study and postdoctoral fellow at the University of Toronto at Mississauga. The researchers then deleted the audio and showed strangers 20second clips of the partner who was listening during the interac-

When they asked the viewers to rate the listeners on how trustworthy and compassionate they were, the genotype mostly predicted the ratings, Kogan said, although there was some variation. Of the 10 people rated the most trustworthy, six had the guanine-guanine genotypic variation on a receptor related to pro-social behavior, while the other four had a different variation. Of the least trustworthy, one person had the guanineguanine genotype, he said. "I think this is just another

way to color a person's personality," said Sarina Saturn, coauthor of the study and assistant professor of psychology at Oregon State University. "(Guanine-guanine) people tend to be a little more social — looking at other people's eyes, reading others' behavior. It's not for better or worse." Saturn compared the study's

findings on the oxytocin receptor to scientists' understandings of seratonin's relation to moodiness and dopamine's relations to thrill-seeking. The researchers said they are

cautious not to over-interpret the study's results, calling it "preliminary" research.

"There's 'a huge interaction between biology, experiences, psychology and all of these things work together to create the person," Kogan said. "People don't need to worry about their genotypes and whether they have the good or bad version."

Although the study found the genotype to be a powerful predictor of people who display trustworthy and caring behavior, Kogan said there are other factors that make it difficult to predict how certain individuals will be perceived. He added that this genotype variation is one of "a ton of other factors" that go together to affect a person's be-

The researchers said they did not know what actually causes the biology to translate to certain behavior.

"Exactly what's going on is a pretty big mystery," Kogan said. We think this gene is involved in a broader system."

While she said more research is needed, Saturn said she hopes this information can be used to help people who may struggle socially.

"I really believe this is just to inform us," she said. "We're all born into different shoes, and some of us are really social. We're all a little different."

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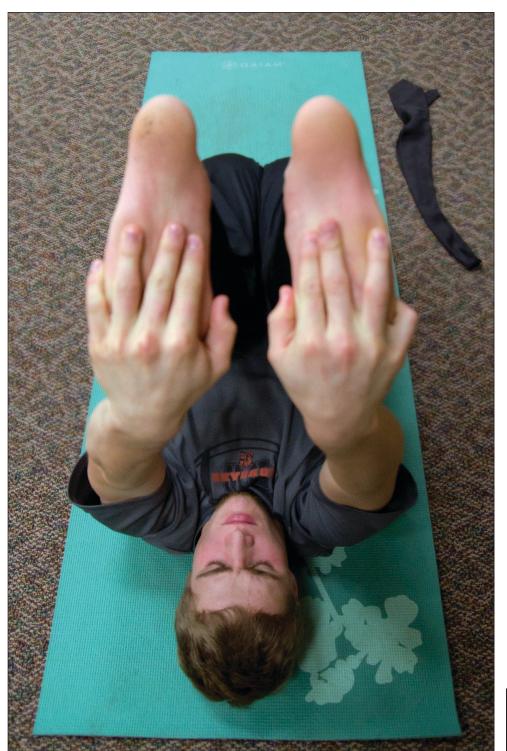
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# An evening stretch



Tommy Theis | Collegian

**Evan Mesh**, senior in biological systems engineering, stretches into a yoga position as he relaxes to the very calm atmosphere in the International Student Center Monday evening. He was participating in a yoga class put on by the UFM. To find out about more non-credit classes go to *ufmprograms.org*.

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# **DYER** | Music is one talent of many

Continued from page 1

performed a handful of times with Red State Blues Band when he was visiting his father.

With such an aptitude for music, Dyer considered pursuing a musically-based profession. The notion, however, was never a serious consideration as he had other interests growing up that took precedence.

that took precedence.

Dyer said, "I wanted to design things. I once worked as a TV repairman, was interested in electronics and, like most boys, I loved cars."

Dyer's interest in design and electronics developed into academic and professional pursuits as he acquired a bachelor's degree in physics, a master's degree in electrical engineering, and Ph.D. in engineering. Following his education, Dyer taught courses in physics, mathematics, electrical and computer engineering, physical chemistry, flight dynamics, physiology and more.

"Stephen is one of those people who loves to learn new things," said Ruth Dyer, Stephen's wife. "Over the 40-year period [we have been married], he'll still take up things that surprise me."

Dyer has been largely involved in leadership roles in the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, while juggling other interests, such as aviation, martial arts, woodworking, design of audio electronics and Koine Greek. Dyer said he has also attained his pilot's license, holds a second-degree black belt in Tae Kwon Do and has an Extra Class Amateur Radio license.

"We designed two pas-

sive solar houses together and he did all the architectural drawings," Ruth said. "He also built racecars for

a while, he is fabulous cook and he even made me a dress one time. He is meticulous in all the things that he does and he knows how to do everything. If he doesn't know, he's willing to learn."

Justin Dyer said that his father enjoys learning and wants to see others enjoy it,

"He likes seeing the light go on in a student's head when they've thought about something on their own after some guidance and truly gotten it," Justin said. "My father holds himself to extremely high standards and so he also wants others to have high standards for themselves as well. I think he sees this as a form of self-respect."

Dyer described himself as fortunate as he spoke about some key people who influenced his passion for design as well as his person. His father worked as a wire chief and with electronic and technical equipment. Dyer said he learned manual skills and the aspiration to work hard and do a good job from his father. Dyer spent a significant amount of time with him growing up and he said that he has always felt very loved by him.

Dyer's interest in electronics, however, did not come from his father, but from his third grade science class. After witnessing the building of a crystal radio, Dyer was determined to build his own. Dyer learned technical information from

his cousin who had a shop.

Dyer's half-brother, Roy, also played an influential role in Dyer's life. Roy had a woodworking shop and Dyer requested his help to modify a speaker for his band when his half-brother claimed that he would make a carpenter out of Dyer.

out of Dyer.
"At first I thought 'no,' but then I realized that you can build anything if given the

build anything if given the right tools," Dyer said.

While Dyer's accolades are plentiful, perhaps his most notable achievement is the respect and admiration he has earned from those who know him well.

"There is nothing that I like better than to sit down in a coffee shop with my dad over a cup of coffee with some napkins to scribble on and a pen while we talk about something that one or both of us has been thinking about lately," Justin said. "It is always a rich experience and one that I treasure even more now that we've lived separated by several thousand miles for the last few

Ruth said that relationships are the most important thing to her husband and that it shows in the way that he lives. She said that when Dyer was going off to the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers as an elected member, he was given a personalized scrapbook of photos and stories about him

about him.

"The mission and vision for our lives is 'live with passion, love with abandon.'
That is just what he does. He loves people wastefully."
Ruth said.

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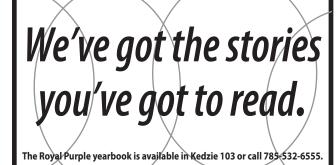
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